

## United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania

274 Max Rosenn U.S. Courthouse, 197 S. Main St.,  
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701  
Tel: (570) 826-6450 Tel: (800) 882-6899 (Harrisburg Toll Free PACER)  
Tel: (800) 640-3037 (Wilkes-Barre Toll Free PACER)  
Fax: (570) 826-6694  
Internet: www.pamb.uscourts.gov

Number of Judgeships: 2

### Court Staff

Clerk **Arlene Byers** ..... (717) 901-2800  
P.O. Box 908, Harrisburg, PA 17108 Fax: (717) 901-2822  
Chief Deputy Clerk **Ellen Linskey** ..... (570) 826-6450

### Chambers of Chief Bankruptcy Judge John J. Thomas

Max Rosenn U.S. Courthouse, 197 S. Main St., Ste. 150,  
Wilkes Barre, PA 18701  
Tel: (570) 826-6336 Fax: (570) 821-4069

### John J. Thomas

Chief Bankruptcy Judge

Date of Birth: 1948  
Education: Dickinson 1972 JD  
Began Service: January 10, 1992  
Term Expires: January 10, 2006

**Academic:** Adjunct Professor, Pennsylvania State University (1987-1992)

**Government:** Public Defender, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania (1974-1985);  
First Assistant Public Defender, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania  
(1984-1985)

**Current Memberships:** American Bar Institute; Middle District  
Bankruptcy Bar Association; National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges;  
Wilkes-Barre Law and Library Association

### Staff

Career Law Clerk **Richard P. Rogers** ..... (570) 826-6336  
Education: Temple 1983 JD  
Judicial Assistant **Catherine M. Sisk** ..... (570) 826-6336

### Chambers of Bankruptcy Judge Mary D. France

P.O. Box 908, Harrisburg, PA 17108  
Tel: (717) 901-2840

### Mary D. France

Bankruptcy Judge

Began Service: March 3, 2003

### Staff

Law Clerk **John D. Kelly** ..... (717) 901-2846

## United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania

U.S. Post Office & Courthouse, 700 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Tel: (412) 208-7500 Tel: (412) 644-6374 (PACER)  
Fax: (412) 208-7530  
Internet: www.pawd.uscourts.gov

Number of Judgeships: 7

**Areas Covered:** Counties of Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford,  
Blair, Butler, Cambria, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Fayette,  
Forest, Greene, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Somerset,  
Venango, Warren, Washington and Westmoreland

### Court Staff

Clerk of the Court **Robert V. Barth** ..... (412) 208-7500

## United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania continued

Chief Deputy Operation **Colleen Willison** ..... (412) 208-7518  
Chief Deputy, Administration **William G. Albert** ..... (412) 208-7527  
Deputy-in-Charge - Erie **Susan Parmeter** ..... (814) 464-9600  
P.O. Box 1820, Erie, PA 16507 Fax: (814) 464-9607  
17 South Park Row, Erie, PA 16501  
Deputy-in-Charge - Johnstown **James Graves** ..... (814) 533-4504  
208 Penn Traffic Bldg., 319 Washington St., Fax: (814) 533-4519  
Johnstown, PA 15901

### Chambers of Chief Judge Donetta W. Ambrose

U.S. Post Office & Courthouse, 700 Grant Street, Suite 307,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1906  
Tel: (412) 208-7350 Fax: (412) 208-7357  
E-mail: Judge\_Donetta\_Ambrose@pawd.uscourts.gov

### Donetta W. Ambrose Chief Judge

Date of Birth: 1945  
Education: Duquesne 1967 BA, 1970 JD  
Began Service: 1994  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton  
Political Affiliation: Democrat

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable Louis L. Manderino, Commonwealth  
Court of Pennsylvania (1970); Law Clerk The Honorable Louis L.  
Manderino, Supreme Court of Pennsylvania (1971-1972)

**Government:** Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General,  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1972-1974); Assistant District Attorney,  
Office of the District Attorney, County of Westmoreland, Pennsylvania  
(1977-1981)

**Judicial:** Judge, Pennsylvania Court of Common Pleas (1982-1993)

**Legal Practice:** Partner, Ambrose & Ambrose (1974-1981)

**Current Memberships:** Allegheny County Bar Association; American  
Bar Association; American Bar Foundation; American Inns of Court;  
American Judicature Society; National Association of Women Judges;  
Pennsylvania Bar Association; Pennsylvania Commission on Women in  
the Profession; Westmoreland County Bar Association; Women's Bar  
Association of Western Pennsylvania

### Staff

Law Clerk **Carolyn Allen** ..... (412) 208-7355  
E-mail: Carolyn\_Allen@pawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Duquesne 1993 JD  
Law Clerk **Sherry Halfhill** ..... (412) 208-7354  
E-mail: Sherry\_Halfhill@pawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Temple 1993 JD  
Law Clerk **Anne Salzman Kurzweg** ..... (412) 208-7353  
E-mail: anne\_kurzweg@pawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Pittsburgh 1998 JD  
Law Clerk **Susan Schupansky** ..... (412) 208-7353  
E-mail: susan\_schupansky@pawd.uscourts.gov  
Education: Pennsylvania 1998 JD  
Judicial Secretary **Adele D. Brajdich** ..... (412) 208-7350  
E-mail: Adele\_Brajdich@pawd.uscourts.gov

### Chambers of District Judge Gary L. Lancaster

700 Grant Street, Room 308, Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Tel: (412) 208-7400 Fax: (412) 208-7407

### Gary L. Lancaster District Judge

Date of Birth: 1949  
Education: Slippery Rock 1971 BS; Pittsburgh 1974 JD  
Began Service: December 17, 1993  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

**Government:** Regional Counsel, Pennsylvania Human Relations  
Commission (1974-1976); Assistant District Attorney, Office of the  
District Attorney, County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania (1976-1978)

**Judicial:** Magistrate Judge, United States District Court for the Western  
District of Pennsylvania (1987-1993)

**Legal Practice:** Sole Practitioner (1978-1979); Partner, Cooper &  
Lancaster (1979-1981); Brown & Smith (1981-1987)

**Current Memberships:** Allegheny County Bar Association; American Inns  
of Court; Homer S. Brown Law Association; National Bar Association

### Staff

Law Clerk **Amy Joseph** ..... (412) 208-7402  
Law Clerk **Teresa Elliot Nixon** ..... (412) 208-7408  
Law Clerk **Padmaja Chivukula**  
Courtroom Deputy **Michael Palus** ..... (412) 208-7400  
Secretary **Michele Brisker** ..... (412) 208-7401

### Chambers of District Judge Sean J. McLaughlin

17 South Park Row, Room A 250, Erie, PA 16501  
Tel: (814) 464-9610

### Sean J. McLaughlin District Judge

Date of Birth: 1955  
Education: Georgetown 1977 BA, 1980 JD  
Began Service: October 13, 1994  
Appointed By: President William J. Clinton

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable William W. Knox, United States  
District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania (1980-1981)

**Legal Practice:** Knox, McLaughlin, Gornall & Sennett (1981-1994)

### Chambers of District Judge Joy Flowers Conti

U.S. Post Office & Courthouse, 700 Grant Street, # 5250,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Tel: (412) 208-7330 Fax: (412) 208-7337



### Joy Flowers Conti District Judge

Date of Birth: December 7, 1948  
Education: Duquesne 1970 BA, 1973 JD  
Began Service: August 30, 2002  
Appointed By: President George W. Bush

**Academic:** Professor of Law, Duquesne University School of Law  
(1976-1982)

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk, Justice Louis L. Manderino, Supreme Court of  
Pennsylvania (1973-1974)

**Corporate:** Editor-in-Chief, Duquesne Law Review; Shareholder, Buchanan  
Ingersoll (1996-2002)

**Legal Practice:** Associate, Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP (1974-1976);  
Partner, Kirkpatrick & Lockhart LLP (1983-1996)

### Chambers of District Judge Joy Flowers Conti continued

**Current Memberships:** Allegheny County Bar Association; Allegheny  
County Bar Foundation, Fellow; American Bankruptcy Institute; American  
Bar Association; American Bar Foundation, Fellow; American College  
of Bankruptcy, Fellow; American Judicature Society; American Law  
Institute; Federal Bar Association; National Association of Women Judges;  
Pennsylvania Bar Association; Pennsylvania Bar Foundation, Fellow;  
Women's Bar Association of Western Pennsylvania; American Inn of  
Court (Pittsburgh Chapter)

### Staff

Law Clerk **Margaret Gleason** ..... (412) 208-7330  
Law Clerk **Philip K. Kontul** ..... (412) 208-7330  
Courtroom Deputy **Sharon Conley** ..... (412) 208-7330  
Court Reporter **Julie Kienzie** ..... (412) 261-6122  
Judicial Assistant **Carole Leonard** ..... (412) 208-7330

### Chambers of District Judge David Stewart Cercone

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, 7th Avenue and Grant Street,  
Room 1036, Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Tel: (412) 208-7363 Fax: (412) 208-7462

### David Stewart Cercone District Judge

Date of Birth: 1952  
Education: Westminster (PA) 1974 BA; Duquesne 1977 JD  
Began Service: September 12, 2002

**Academic:** Adjunct Faculty, Robert Morris College (1993-1995)

**Clerkships:** Law Clerk The Honorable Paul R. Zavarella, Allegheny County  
Court of Common Pleas (1978-1979)

**Government:** Assistant District Attorney, Office of the District Attorney,  
County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania (1979-1981)

**Judicial:** District Justice, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (1982-1985)

### Staff

Courtroom Deputy Clerk **Nancy Trapani** ..... (412) 208-7363  
Secretary **Kimberly Weinstein** ..... (412) 208-7363

### Chambers of District Judge Terrence F. McVerry

U.S. Post Office and Courthouse, 700 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Tel: (412) 208-7495

### Terrence F. McVerry District Judge

Date of Birth: 1943  
Education: Duquesne 1962 BA, 1968 JD  
Began Service: September 27, 2002

**Government:** Assistant District Attorney, Office of the District Attorney,  
County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania (1969-1973)

**Judicial:** Judge, Court of Common Pleas (1998-2000)

**Legal Practice:** Law Clerk & Associate, Eddy & Osterman (1966-1970);  
Partner, Mansmann, Beggy, McVerry & Baxter (1970-1972); Partner,  
McVerry, Baxter & Cindrich (1972-1988)

### Staff

Courtroom Deputy Clerk **Kelly LaMantia** ..... (412) 208-7495  
Secretary **Carmella Cristofano** ..... (412) 208-7495